

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Headquarters
Washington, DC 20546-0001



November 8, 2012

General Law Practice Group

Reply to Attn of:

TO: Distribution

FROM: Alternate Designated Agency Ethics Official

SUBJECT: Determination Regarding Attendance by NASA Employees at the Society of Satellite Professionals International (SSPI), Dinner on November 13, 2012

On November 13, 2012, the Society of Satellite Professionals International (SSPI), a not-for-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service Code, will host a dinner and opening reception. The event will be held at Harmonie Club, 4 East 60th Street, NY, NY 10022 from 6 PM to 10 PM. The purpose of the event is to support the retention of talent within the satellite industry by recognizing young professionals and industry leaders who demonstrate promise.

Approximately 150 people were invited to attend. Attendees will include satellite industry professionals, members of the public, media, the evening honorees, media, and representatives from other federal agencies. The estimated cost of the event, including all food and beverages, is around \$250 per person.

I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 2635.204(g)(2). I further determine that there is an Agency interest in having NASA personnel attend the event because it will further Agency programs or operations. Attendance at the event will allow NASA attendees to exchange information on NASA's programs and policies. Accordingly, NASA employees whose duties do not substantially affect the sponsor, including NASA employees in non-career positions who are required to sign the ethics pledge under Executive Order 13490, may accept an invitation from the SSPI for themselves and an invited guest for free attendance to the event.

However, NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the event sponsor (SSPI), such as by way of procurement duties, or who receive an invitation from a party other than SSPI should seek an individual determination pursuant to 5 C.F.R. §2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding participation in this event from their local ethics counselor.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam F. Greenstone".

Adam F. Greenstone